

APPENDIX

IN THE TITLE:

The title of the invention has been amended to read as: SYSTEM AND METHOD
FOR CONTROLLING CONDITIONAL BRANCHING UTILIZING A CONTROL
INSTRUCTION HAVING A REDUCED WORD LENGTH

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The paragraph beginning at page 5, line 22, have been replaced with the following rewritten paragraph:

A1 Figure 1 schematically illustrates an exemplary configuration for a program execution control system according to the present invention. The system shown in Figure 1 is used for controlling the execution of a program in an information processor of the type processing instructions by pipelining. As shown in Figure 1, the system includes instruction providing section 10, instruction executing section 20 and nullification controller 30. The instruction providing section 10 includes program counter 11, memory 12 and instruction register 13. The program counter 11 sequentially specifies respective addresses of instructions to be fetched and executed. The memory 12 reads out the instructions, which together constitute a program (i.e., instruction set) including an execution control instruction, one after another in accordance with the addresses specified. And the instruction register 13 stores thereon the instructions read out one by one. An instruction set INST is provided from the instruction register 13 to

A1 the instruction executing section **20** and to the nullification controller **30**. The instruction executing section **20** includes: an arithmetic logic unit (ALU) **21** for performing arithmetic or logic operations in response to the instruction set **INST** provided; and a flag register **22** for holding multiple flags indicating the results of the computations. The nullification controller **30** receives control flags **CF** from the flag register **22**. In the illustrated embodiment, the control flags **CF** include two flags **F1** and **F2**, which have been set equal to zero or one by the ALU **21**.

The paragraph beginning at page 6, line 24, have been replaced with the following rewritten paragraph:

A2 Figure **2** illustrates a basic format for an execution control instruction according to the present invention. As shown in Figure **2**, the execution control instruction contains instruction field **41**, condition field **42** and instruction-specifying field **43**. The instruction field **41** specifies the type of the instruction as an execution control instruction. The condition field **42** specifies an execution condition **EC**. And the instruction-specifying field **43** defines, in binary code, the number **N** (where **N** is a natural number) of instructions that will be executed only conditionally, i.e., just when the execution condition **EC** is satisfied. In response to the execution control instruction, the nullification controller **30** decides based on the control flags **CF** whether or not the execution condition **EC** specified by the condition field **42** is met. And based on the outcome of this decision, the nullification controller **30** determines whether or not the number **N** of instructions, which number has been defined by the instruction-specifying